



Human Rights Commission - Agenda

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Time: 8:00 PM

Location: 27 Maple Street, HHS Conference Room, 2nd Floor

Conducted by Hybrid (Remote and In-Person)

Attendees: Co-Chairs Carney, Pusey. Commission members: Bauer, Beauchemin, Bryant, Grossman, Horowitz, G. Jones, Key, Soneja

Absent: S.Jones

Community Outreach & Engagement Coordinator: Teresa Marzilli

APD: Capt Flynn

Community members: Danielle Kost, Rebecca Gruber

1. Remote Meeting Notice and Land Acknowledgement
2. Review of August 2023 Meeting Minutes: With edits to Jillian's name and Buzzell Field, Comm. Horowitz moved to approve, seconded by Comm. Bryant. Passed with three abstentions.
3. Sponsorship / Funding Request for Stratton Event - Commissioner Pusey
 - a. Danielle Kost: Hosting an event for Nepali families at Stratton on Oct 14. Need \$200 to cover costs. It could be a model for other affinity groups.
 - b. Comm. Bauer moved to approve \$200, seconded by Comm. Grossman. Passed unanimously.
4. Incidents & Complaints & APD Updates
 - a. APD: Xenophobic and homophobic language against neighbors in East Arlington on Sep 15 and 18. Different layers of the APD are involved. Taking it very seriously.
 - b. Commissioner Updates: Comm. Key followed up with the neighbors and APD personnel. Neighbors are feeling empowered by support.
 - i. Can follow up to be sure they are being supported by school and AYC.
 - ii. Can follow up to see if religious support is helpful.
 - c. APD other reports:

- i. Jewish High Holidays approaching, working with relevant facilities regarding possible threats. Have done a lot of security assessments to encourage the hardening of facilities and help create security plans.
 - ii. Town Day: Issues of crowd control. A lot of vendors this year.
 - iii. The part-time clinician is onboarding and will be meeting with the community at Town Day.
- 5. DEI Update: Jillian is on leave. Preparing for Town Day. Also, providing Town offices with translation equipment. Working on MBTA communities. New ideas for engagement out of recent conference.
- 6. MAHRC Update/Issues - Commissioner Soneja
 - a. Met two weeks ago, focused on reintroductions and a speaker on equity in mental health care.
 - b. Can use our statement on the Raise the Age campaign as testimony for the upcoming hearing.
- 7. Working Group Updates
 - a. Schools & Education—won't meet again until Nov. Superintendent's Advisory Meeting canceled, so unsure where this stands—met with a School Committee rep about communications, including, for example, the calendar issues. Trying to meet with the school's DEI coordinator. Rainbow Task Force doing a back-to-school fair. The new 4/5 grade health/human growth curriculum will be discussed tomorrow night. Friends of Metco is starting.
 - b. Outreach / Events
 - o Worked on schedule including:
 - 1. Oct: Day of Learning in planning, likely to be later
 - 2. 2024
 - a. Jan – MLK—cosponsor
 - b. Jan/Feb – Lunar New Year
 - c. Feb – Black History Month
 - d. May— cosponsor History event
 - o IPD Co-Sponsorship of Dallin Museum event, \$150
 - 1. Moved by Comm. Bauer, seconded by Comm. Carney, passed unanimously.
 - 2. Comm. Carney will reach out to Heather.
 - 3. Comm. Soneja reported on other IPD events.
 - c. Communications
 - o New shared drive: all Commissioners invited
 - o Emails: moving to more announcements, shorter emails. Did one on Hispanic Heritage Month. Planning one on banned books. Will do one on IPD.
 - o Social Media: looking to create a 12-month plan.
 - o Rapid Response Team: updating and reconstituting.
 - d. Town Day (Saturday, Sept. 23)—all set, can break down early if needed
- 8. Co-Chairs Report
 - a. DEI Co-Chairs—Rainbow Commission has a new brochure and bookmark, and Lunar

New Year is looking to expand.

9. MBTA Communities Zoning

- a. Monday ARB Meeting Recap - Commissioner Carney reviewed.
- b. AHRC Support/Statement: Aim to release between Oct 2 and Oct 17. Comm. Grossman moved to delegate writing, seconded by Comm. Horowitz. Comm. Pusey to draft and circulate. Passed unanimously.

10. Discussion: How to Address / Respond to Anti-Semitism as Allies

- a. Critical issue
- b. Linked nominated for Arlington Reads
- c. Need to discuss in depth next meeting

11. Community Input

12. Announcements:

- a. Want to put Housing on the agenda for the next meeting, consider asking the Town to reinstitute the Fair Housing Office. Wrap in inspections and Fair Housing Action plan.
- b. Reminder of Anniversary and Rally for the 20-year-old shot by Cambridge police.

13. Next meeting – Wednesday, October 18, 2023

- a. Incident Handling
 - September: Commissioner Key
 - October: Commissioner Bauer
 - November: Commissioner Pusey

14. Adjournment: Moved by Comm. Bauer, seconded by Comm. Horowitz, passed unanimously

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 8:00 pm, Remote Participation